



## October, 2018

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the WRDC or of the Editor. Your opinions, suggestions and comments are always welcomed!

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Subscriptions to the Spotted Copy are \$15.00 per year. Subscriptions are free to WRDC Members.

**Deadline for November newsletter is 10/25/18**

Camera ready copy please.

## Next Meeting

Next meeting is  
**Saturday, October 20**

**Regular Meeting @7pm**

**Strongsville Fire Station  
11287 Webster Road  
Strongsville, Ohio 4413**

# Spotted Copy

*Official newsletter of the Western Reserve  
Dalmatian Club for members of Cleveland and  
Northeast Ohio. Est. - 1965*

## Do Dogs Grieve the Loss of Their Human Owners?

*By Alexandra Anastasio*

There are countless reasons why dogs are considered to be man's best friend. They offer companionship, love, loyalty, and anyone who has ever formed a special bond with a dog can attest to the symbiotic relationship between humans and canines. But what happens to a dog when he loses his best friend?

"When an owner passes away before her pet, it can be a confusing, sad, and difficult period, even if arrangements have been made for the animal to be taken care of by someone else," says Russell Hartstein, a certified behaviorist and dog trainer based in Los Angeles. It's not unusual for dogs to grieve the loss of a person they've bonded with who is no longer present. While they might not understand the full extent of human absence, dogs do understand the emotional feeling of missing someone who's no longer a part of their daily lives.

Because we can't communicate with our dogs to explain when a loss occurs, certain indicators — such as a change in routine, or the absence of their owner's sensations (sight, sound, smell)

— convey that something is different.

"My definition of grief is that a surviving animal shows distress through behavior that is markedly divergent from his routine," says Barbara J. King, professor emerita of anthropology at the College of William and Mary and the author of "How Animals Grieve."



While we can't say for sure whether the feelings a dog has when experiencing an emotional loss mirror that of a human's, Dr. Marc Bekoff, professor emeritus of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of Colorado Boulder, says there is now solid evidence from brain imaging studies that similar areas of dogs' brains light up when they're feeling parallel emotions to those of humans.

No two dogs are alike, so the way in which they grieve — and for how long — can differ. In order to decipher a dog's emotional state after losing a loved one, it's important to keep an eye out for certain signs, as they can affect a dog's health. Although there is no concrete way of knowing exactly how a dog processes grief, there's no denying the sadness expressed through behavioral changes.



Anxiety and stress can present themselves in a variety of ways. Signs to be aware of include:

- Panting
- Whining
- Barking
- Pacing
- Fidgeting

Jame Thomas, executive director at Motley Zoo Animal Rescue, explains that dogs need to figure things out on their own and work through feelings when experiencing loss or grief.

Other indicators of grief include:

- Loss of appetite
- Weight loss
- Lack of energy
- Listlessness or clinginess
- Loss of interest in physical activity

“Dogs are highly intuitive and sensitive, more than people give them credit for,” says Thomas.

In June 2014, Constable Dave Ross, a Canadian general duty officer and police dog handler, lost his life in the line of duty.

His service dog, a German Shepherd named Danny, stood alongside him during his time on the force. Throughout Ross' funeral, the loyal canine whimpered next to his master's casket. This is just one example of many that speaks volumes to the feelings a dog experiences after losing his owner. Like us, dogs go through a grieving period. While there isn't one specific approach, being sensitive to a dog's needs can go a long way:

- Be aware of routines and try to stick to them
- Provide comfort by spending more time together
- Give extra affection — touch increases your bond
- Play his favorite game and increase exercise

“I have no doubt that dogs miss us as much as we miss them, and like us, they need time to heal from a deep emotional loss,” says Sally Morgan, a holistic physical therapist for animals and humans.

How long a dog grieves varies, but with time, most recover emotionally. At the first sign of decline in physical or emotional health, consult a veterinarian to ensure the symptoms of grief aren't masking those of another illness.



## Lady Maxine's Book of Quotations



In moments of pure joy, all of us wished we had a tail we could wag.

**W. H. Auden**

It was a comfort, too, to see Those dogs that from him ne'er would rove And always eyed him reverently With glances of depending love

They know but that he is a man

And still to them is kind And glads them all he can

**Sir Walter Scott**

Dog's lives are way too short, their only fault, really.

**Agnes Turnbull**

He has taught me the meaning of devotion.... With him, I know a secret comfort and a private peace. He has brought me understanding where before I was ignorant.

**Gene Hill**

## Birthday Wishes



### October, 2018

Life O'Riley Dalmatians Greg  
10/8/2013 – Richard & Lesley  
Sinwald

Life O'Riley Dalmatians Bobby  
10/8/2013 – Richard & Lesley  
Sinwald

Life O'Riley Dalmatians Alice  
10/8/2013 – Richard & Lesley  
Sinwald

D-Trix Zdar's Rhapsody in Motion  
10/09/2007 – Diane Tucker

D-Trix Zdar's Diamond Dancer  
10/09/2007 – Diane Tucker

Zdar's Polka Johnny  
10/09/07 – Tim & Diane  
Kompier

Sparksfly & Zdar's Hocus Pocus  
10/31/17 – Greg & Martha  
Brown

Zdar's Kit Kat  
10/31/2017 – Cindy Riggins

### NON-SPOTTED BIRTHDAYS

Marcella Austin – Oct. 5

Diane Kompier – Oct. 12

Steve Weisman – Oct. 17

Richard Sinwald – Oct. 21

Cindy Chaytor – Oct. 27

Tim Kompier – Oct. 29

Sarah Shupp – Oct. 29

Send your birthday/anniversary  
information to the editor

## Community Service Award

In recognition of WRDC members who participated in community events and/or therapy dog events with their Dals, the Club has established a Community Service Award.

Members' Dalmatians that have met one of the following criteria are recognized as Ambassadors of the Breed and will be awarded a certificate honoring their service.

If you and your Dalmatian have met the following criteria, please complete the application and submit to the Awards Chair.

1. Participated in 3 or more community events during the past year.
2. Visited a hospital or similar facility at least 12 times during the past year.

Cindy Chaytor, Awards Chair



## Dues are Due on October 1.



## Presidents Message

Fall has arrived to Greater Cleveland with cooler temps and lower humidity and is a welcome relief. This year seems to be flying by.

WRDC has been busy with the annual Puppy Match, back to back Specialties and our presence at the Beachwood Fire Station opening.

It looks like there will be a lot of awards this year at our banquet to be presented. The format has changed a bit, so please read the application carefully and submit it to Cindy Chaytor with all items required by Nov 1.

Required items for Awards application:

1. Fill out the form for each title, state if plaque or certificate is earned.
2. AKC copy of certificate of title.
3. Picture (4"x6") for plaque
4. A short essay on your Dal's achievements and mail to:

Cindy Chaytor  
22871 Nicholas Ave.  
Euclid, Ohio 444123

Email –  
cchaytorspot@sbcglobal.net

If you have everything needed now, bring them to the October meeting and we have more time to start work on the plaques and certificates.

Debbie



**AKC Facts and Stats:**

As a nonprofit charitable organization, the AKC Canine Health Foundation helps dogs live longer, healthier lives by raising funds to support research that benefits all dogs and people.

- The AKC Canine Health Foundation has allocated more than \$24 million in health research funds to more than 500 studies in nearly all of the top diseases in dogs, including cancer, epilepsy, thyroid disease, hip dysplasia, allergies, heart disease, progressive retinal atrophy, and cataracts, among others.
- In 2004, the AKC Canine Health Foundation became the largest foundation in the world to fund exclusively canine health studies.
- Because people inherit many of the same diseases as dogs,

humans can also benefit from health research funded for dogs.

- The AKC Canine Health Foundation pioneered the first research done to map the canine genome (DNA sequence). More than \$2 million in AKC CHF grants were allocated to continue the work to map the canine genome (completed in 2005), and the National Institutes of Health continued what we started by contributing more than \$30 million in 2004 to the work being done at MIT's Broad Institute.
- Over 430 AKC member clubs, as well as more than 35 foundations established by AKC member clubs, have contributed over \$5.5 million to support canine health research, often to a specific breed or disease of interest to the club.
- The Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) and the AKC Canine Health Foundation have established the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) to encourage health testing by breeders and provide breeders and researchers with information to improve breeding programs.
- Research funded by the AKC Canine Health Foundation has developed cancer therapies that have shown a marked reduction in tumor growth

in patients participating in clinical trials.

- Through AKC CHF funded research, genetic tests have been made available, helping breeders make more informed breeding decisions and clinical trials are helping improve diagnosis and treatment for ALL dogs.

**Awards**  
Cindy Chaytor

**Awards & Holiday Banquet**  
Don & Debbie Gotsch

**Historian**  
Open

**Hospitality**  
Monthly Member Rotation

**Membership**  
Nancy Abbott

**Programs/Public Education**  
Tammy Edmundson

**2019 Puppy Match**  
Cindy Chaytor

**Referral Service**  
Pam Weisman  
Cindy Riggans  
Rick Sinwald

**2019 Specialty Shows**  
Cindy Riggans

**Spotted Copy**  
Don Gotsch, Editor  
Debbie Gotsch, Co-Editor

**Sunshine**  
Nancy Abbott

**Performance**  
Linda Lombardi, Cindy Chaytor,  
and Debbie Gotsch

**WESTERN RESERVE  
DALMATIAN CLUB  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES  
September 15, 2018**

President Debbie Gotsch opened the meeting at 7:17. Roll call was read, with 14 members and 3 guests in attendance.

Greg Brown made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes, as they were printed in the Spotted Copy. Don Gotsch seconded the motion. Carried. Debbie Gotsch reported that the Beachwood Fire Station was a huge success. She was approached by another city to possibly appear next year.

Secretary report.

Correspondence was read.

Treasurer's report. Nancy Abbott announced that we made a profit from the Specialty.

Dues are due October 1, 2018.

Please send your checks to Nancy Abbott.

Sunshine. Betty Kilfoyle and Diana Smith are both in nursing homes. Flowers have been sent to them both.

Kathy Szomoru had surgery and is doing better.

Awards. Cindy Chaytor asked for a short bio on dog and owner. Need a copy of AKC certificate noting title. Also, a 4 x 6 picture of the dog.

Spotted Copy. Don Gotsch stated that the newsletter will go out around October 1. If there is something you would like to have in the newsletter, please get it to him.

Holiday Party. Don Gotsch stated that it will be held on December 2, at 2:00. This will be a buffet. Cost will be \$25.00 each and money will be due in November. There will be a gift exchange.

**2018  
CLUB OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT**

DEBBIE GOTSCH

**VICE PRESIDENT**

LESLEY SINWALD

**TREASURER**

NANCY ABBOTT  
4036 Grafton Rd.  
Brunswick, OH 44212-2142  
216-702-4441

**SECRETARY**

MARTHA BROWN  
486 Wolcott Ave  
Kent, Ohio 44240  
330-673-0356

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

PAM WEISMAN (2 YR)  
CINDY RIGGANS 2018 (3 YR)  
TAMMY EDMUNDSON 2019 (2 YR)  
BARB BRANDON – 2018 (1 YR)

**DCA REPRESENTATIVE**



**VISIT US ONLINE AT THE  
OFFICIAL WRDC WEBSITE**

[www.wrdalmatianclub.com](http://www.wrdalmatianclub.com)

**EMAIL ADDRESS**

[wrdc.ohio@yahoo.com](mailto:wrdc.ohio@yahoo.com)

Programs. Barb Allison will discuss LUA Dalmatians at our October meeting. Jeff Gillespie and Cindy Ingalls will provide information on Copper Storage at our November meeting, hope many can make it.

Puppy Match. We need a chairman. Cindy Chaytor has agreed to do this again.

Associate membership. Don Gotsch made a motion to accept Associate Memberships starting in 2019. Ann Swope seconded. Motion was carried.

Nominating Committee: There were no other members nominated at the September meeting. This is the slate of officers and board members that will be voted on in October.

President-- Debbie Gotsch  
Vice President-- Lesley Sinwald  
Treasurer-- Nancy Abbott  
Secretary-- Martha Brown

Board Members:

Cindy Riggans 3 year, 2021  
Pam Weisman 2 year, 2020  
Barbara Brandon 1 year, 2019  
Greg Brown 2 year, 2020

Announcements: Medina KC will hold a Winter Round Up December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Lorain KC will sponsor a Fast Cat on September 29<sup>th</sup> at the a Gated Dock in Shelby, Ohio  
Medina KC will hold Cats on October 13-14, Rally on Oct.20-21, and Fast Cats on November 10-11.

Ann Swope asked when the time was to send a letter asking for Supported Entry for Sugar Bush KC. We vote on supported entries at the November Board meeting.

Don Gotsch made a motion to adjourn, Greg Brown seconded. Carried. Meeting ended at 8:05p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Martha Brown, secretary

**BRAGS:**

Tammy Edmundson announced that both Sidney and Freddy are Therapy Dogs. Debbie Gotsch bragged that Oscar has 2 legs towards his Novice Rally title. And has a C

Wags Zoom title with a 52 second run.

Cindy Chaytor Bragged on 3 of her dogs. Blue has been busy. 2 legs in coursing, 2 legs in masters jumpers, 2 legs in master standard and 4<sup>th</sup> place in master standard. CGCU, and Double Q in Agility. Lily received her CGCA. Grace received her Trick Novice and Trick Intermediate Titles.

Ann Swope bragged about Coal. This summer he has acquired his CGC, CGCA. Trick Novice and Trick Intermediate. Farm Dog (FDC). 1 Major and points to GCH. First 4 legs of Fast Cat and has 99.3 points to the 150 points needed for BCAT.



### Membership .....

WRDC Members,  
I would like to sponsor Linda Squires for membership to the WRDC.

I met Linda 20 years ago when her Mom, Lynne Lowery was a member and she was a junior handler. Linda was a great Junior Handler.

Their first show dog was from Martha Banks named Lacy. Topper, their next dog came from Charlie Garvin. Topper won the Indianapolis Specialty. They also owned Butch from Kathy Riddle.

Linda now has Wade who she got from me in January of this year. Wade currently has 10 points with both Majors and also has Farm Dog title.

Linda helps with Rescue when she can, and currently has six dogs. Linda will be a great asset to the club.

Sincerely,  
Cindy Riggans



### Upcoming events at Medina Kennel Club

- Oct. 13-14 - CATS
  - Oct. 20-21 - Rally Trials
  - Nov. 10-11 - FAST CATS
  - Dec. 1-2 - Obedience Trials
  - Dec. 8 - Winter Round Up
- Includes testing for CGC, CGCA, Trick Dog, Farm Dog, ACT 1 and ACT 2. All entry forms can be found on their website at [www.medinakennelclub.weebly.com](http://www.medinakennelclub.weebly.com).

## 2018 Western Reserve Awards Banquet and Holiday Party

**Sunday, Dec 2, 2018 at 2pm**

**Amici's Restaurant  
13000 Royalton Road  
North Royalton, Ohio 44133**

**Garden Salad, Rolls & Butter  
Unlimited coffee, tea, soft drinks, cash bar  
Chicken Parmesan with Penne pasta and  
Roast beef au jus with Au Gratin potatoes  
Includes 18% gratuity  
Sheet cake and cookies for desert**

**Cost is \$25 per person, all reservations and payments needed by November 17 meeting  
There will be a Holiday gift exchange, bring a gift – get a gift.**

**Please send in your reservations and money on time to Don Gotsch, we need a head count.  
Amici's is at the corner of Royalton Road (Route 82) and West 130<sup>th</sup>, near our Fire Station.**

